

Design of containment area by Pond 08, New Elk Mine



Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

10:25 AM (0 minutes ago)

to Louis

Hello, Louis.

I would like your staff to look at Exhibit 19 of your New Elk Mine PAP, and tell me if they agree with my interpretation. I have attached two design drawings for Containment Areas (CAs). These are the latest, I think, from your PAP.

Containment Area #5 is the north one, next to Pond 08. The stage/storage graph on the drawing indicates that **there is no room for no sediment storage** in this CA.

Containment Area #3 is the southeast one, east of the conveyor, south of Hwy 12. The stage/storage graph on the drawing indicates that there is room for a large amount of sediment in this CA.

There is very little area that drains to the CA to the southeast (#3), but a relatively large area (prone to erosion) that drains to the north CA (#5), so it is not surprising that the north CA would require a lot more storage area for water and sediment.

Let me know if you and your staff agree that these are the current design drawings for these two structures and if you also agree with my assessment of the stage/storage graphs.

You might be wondering why I am asking these questions. Answer: I think that there may be an issue with Containment Area #5. It may need to be cleaned in the very near future. And in the future, it is going to require frequent cleaning and/or something will have to be done with the area above it to limit the sediment load.

Thanks,
Rob

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